April May June 2009

#### SPRING IS CLEAN UP TIME

Under that snow pile, hidden in the bushes, or in between the garages lingers winter's ugly present to property owners, both residential and commercial. Scraps of paper, plastic bags, newspapers, fast food packaging, plastic bottles, soda cans and glass containers will be found. Where did it come from? Who put it there?

We live in a trashy society and must clean up after others all the time. The evidence is there after the snow melts, in your yard and the neighbor's yard.

Take pride in your community and neighborhood. It begins with a general clean up of your property and your neighbor's.

# 2009 Spring YARD WASTE COLLECTION

Sunday, April 12, through Sunday, April 26

- Place materials in the curb-line following the same procedures normally utilized during the fall collection period.
- Do not place materials in the street prior to April 12 or after April 26.
- DONOT MIX BRUSH INTO THE YARD WASTE PILES.
- Yard waste materials may also be taken to a drop-off center or composted on-site.
- Remove pots and soil from potted plants before placing in the curb-line.

# PROPERTY MAINTENANCE VITAL TO NEIGHBORHOOD IMAGE AND PROPERTY VALUES

Property maintenance is an important issue when discussing property values and neighborhood quality of life issues. The property down the block or across the alley that is in disrepair reflects on the immediate neighborhood and the sale value of properties. That property may be owned by an absentee property owner (12% of the 16,925 single and two-family dwellings in the City) that doesn't watch their property like you do or has renters that don't care about property maintenance. That property may be owned by an elderly person that cannot, either physically or monetarily, maintain the property. Or, maybe the property is owned by a young family that doesn't know about property maintenance - you don't have to pass a test to own a property.



Some of the most common complaints received are:

Yard Maintenance: Tall grass/weeds; trash containers overflowing or missing; outdoor storage of junk or vehicle parts; dog droppings; abandoned vehicles; mud/gravel discharge into street/alley from unpaved parking; garbage/refuse storage; fence in disrepair.

**Building Maintenance**: Garage doors broken/missing; dwelling gutters missing; gutters directed at neighbor's dwelling; porch missing rails or steps in disrepair; chimney or roof shingles in need of repair; house, garage or shed has chipping/flaking paint.

Winter Maintenance: Abutting public sidewalk not shoveled; ice on public sidewalk from sump pump or other storm water discharge.

Other Quality of Life Complaints (Police and Zoning Issues): Noise; barking dogs; trespassing/property line disputes; graffiti/vandalism; suspected gang or drug activities; illegal business out of house; number of tenants in residential unit; commercial truck parking.

Neighborhood complaints may be assigned or followed up on by City Departments, including Public Works, Engineering, Police, Health or Building Inspections and Neighborhood Services. Please note that not all complaints filed are violations of City Codes, and follow-up action may take a year or more if court action is required.

If you have a complaint about a property in your neighborhood, you may call the Neighborhood Services Inspector at (414)302-8419 who will log your complaint and refer it to the appropriate department for follow-up. Complaints may also be made to the Building Inspections Hot Line at (414)302-8420, or by calling your Alderperson or the Mayor. It is requested that the complainant give their name and phone number, which allows for further contact regarding City follow-up action.

Page 2 Holiday Closing	Page 3 Dinner Benefits Military Families	Page 4 Free Offerings	Page 5 Neighborhood Meetings
Page 6 Senior News	Page 7 Library News	Page 8  July 4 <sup>th</sup> Preview	Insert Refuse & Recycling Information

#### CLERK/TREASURER OFFICE NEWS

#### Vote April 7, 2009 Spring Election

Offices to vote for include Justice of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Circuit Court Judges, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and West Allis-West Milwaukee, et al. Board of Education. See the Clerk's web page at <a href="https://www.ci.west-allis.wi.us">www.ci.west-allis.wi.us</a> for more election-related information, including sample ballots and voter registration requirements.

#### Dog And Cat Licensing Reminder

The due date for obtaining your pet's license is March 31, 2009. The fee for neutered/spayed pets is \$12.00, and the fee for not neutered or spayed pets is \$24.00. There will be a late fee if the license is not applied for prior to April 1, 2009. Provide the rabies vaccination certificate and alteration documentation when applying for the license for your dog or cat. Contact the Clerk/Treasurer's Office at 302-8200 if you have any questions, or see the Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control Commission's (MADACC) website at <a href="https://www.madacc.com">www.madacc.com</a>.

#### Real Estate Tax Bills-Final Payment Due May 31

The third and final installment of your 2008 real estate property tax is due May 31, 2009. Because the due date falls on a weekend, payments on June 1, 2009 are considered timely. If any part of these taxes are unpaid as of June 1, interest and penalties of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  % per month are charged from February 1 on the unpaid balance. If any of your previous installments were not paid in full or by the due dates, the interest and penalties are already being added to your taxes.

The City of West Allis collects delinquent 2008 real estate taxes through July 31, 2009. The City transfers the unpaid 2008 real estate tax balances to Milwaukee County in August 2009.

#### Pay By E-Check Or Credit Card

You may pay your tax bill by e-check (automated checking withdrawal) or credit card (Internet or telephone call). Choose Property Search and Pay Tax on www.ci.west-allis.wi.us.

#### Pay By Mail

We suggest payments be mailed when possible—ideally a minimum of one week before the due date. Be sure the postmark is applied before midnight of the due date. The official postmark will be proof of timeliness. Your payment can then be processed without interest and penalty charges (if received within five business days). Postmarks do not apply if you are already delinquent. If you mail your payment, please include the third payment coupon. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want a receipt.

#### 24-Hour Depository

The 24-hour depository is located near the main doors off the City Hall parking lot and can be used for dropping off payments.

## **HOLIDAY CLOSING**

#### MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 25, 2009

West Allis City Hall, Municipal Yard, Library, Health Department and Senior Center will be closed.

> Saturday, May 23, 2009 Municipal Yard will be closed.



#### MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION

Monday, May 25, 2009

#### 10:00 a.m. Parade

Parade route is west on Greenfield Ave. from 70<sup>th</sup> to 75<sup>th</sup> St., south on 75<sup>th</sup> St. to National Ave., east on National Ave. to Vets' Park.

11:00 a.m. Memorial Service Veterans' Park, 70th & National

## 2010 CENSUS

The United States Census Bureau will open a Local Census Office in West Allis in the fall of 2009. The Census Bureau will be recruiting for multiple types of positions to assist with the census operations. If you are interested in applying for these positions, visit the Census Bureau's website at

http://www.census.gov.rochi/www/emply.html or call their toll-free number at 1-800-470-8896.



# RECREATION DEPARTMENT SUMMER ACTIVITY GUIDE

Watch for the WA-WM Recreation Department's Summer 2009 Activity Guide coming out April 2. The booklet will be inserted in the free advertiser's paper called Express News, which residents receive in the mail. You may also pick up a copy at the Parkway Recreation Center, 2930 S. Root River Pkwy or check online at <a href="https://www.wawm.k12.wi.us/recreation">www.wawm.k12.wi.us/recreation</a>. Call 604-4900 for further information.

## **NEWSLETTER**

THE WEST ALLIS CITY NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CALL 302-8292.

www.ci.west-allis.wi.us

## COMMUNITY DINNER BENEFIT

#### Celebrating and Appreciating Military Families

The West Allis Community Improvement Foundation in partnership with the West Allis Rotary Club and WA/WM Chamber of Commerce will sponsor the 20th Annual West Allis Community Dinner Benefit on Saturday, May 2, 2009, 6-11 p.m. at Summit Place, 6737 W. Washington Avenue. The event benefits the *Operation: Military Families First* program.

Behind every Military Member there is a Family. In our community, we now have a program that brings those families to the forefront. *Operation: Military Families First* is an innovative program in West Allis and West Milwaukee that will provide military families with a connection to local resources, benefits information, updates on military specials, outreach to schools, literature, care packages, special events and activities, and support groups. This program will also recognize and honor the Military Members and Veterans from our community at an annual event. The program is a joint venture of the WA-WM Family Resource Center and the WA-WM Chamber of Commerce. Many organizations, community and civic-minded persons, school and city representatives are also involved in this project, and hopes are high for a successful funding effort to ensure this program becomes a great success!

The evening will feature a buffet dinner by Rupena's Summit Café, the "Taste of West Allis" Sweet Table, the Strolling Strings, a Patriotic DVD Presentation and CD selections, and exciting Silent Auction.

Tickets are \$45/person, or \$400 for table of 10, and are available at West Allis City Hall, WA/WM Chamber of Commerce, or mail your reservation to the Foundation at 7525 W. Greenfield Ave., West Allis, WI 53214. Reservation deadline is April 20. For further information, call the Foundation at 414/302-8292.



#### MARK MAY 2 ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

## 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL WEST ALLIS 'ALA CARTE'

Sunday, June 7, 2009 12 Noon – 6pm

The Downtown West Allis Business Improvement District, the WA/WM Chamber of Commerce and the City of West Allis are teaming up for a day filled with live music, food, artists, games and family fun! On Sunday, June 7, 2009 at 12 noon, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual West Allis Ala Carte will "kick-off" the summer with activities along Greenfield Avenue from 70<sup>th</sup> to 76<sup>th</sup> streets. Entertainment provided by the students from the WA-WM School District, "The Steve Cohen Band" and "Broken" will fill Greenfield Avenue with music to be enjoyed by all. Local and regional artists will be on-hand to display their work along with tasting a bit of West Allis from area restaurants. Games, a "Senior" area and local organizations and performers are planned to entertain children young and old.

At this time we are looking for exhibitors/vendors, event sponsors and volunteers for this upcoming event. We encourage participation from area businesses, schools and residents to help make this *2nd Annual West Allis Ala Carte* the most successful ever! Pictures from last year's event can be found at our website: <a href="https://www.DowntownWestAllis.org">www.DowntownWestAllis.org</a>.

For more information on the event, to join others as a sponsor of the event and/or volunteer any amount of time, please call the Downtown West Allis Business Improvement District at 414-774-2676 or email us at promotions@downtownwestallis.org.

Join us Sunday, June 7, on Greenfield Avenue between 70th and 76th for a day filled with free family fun!



Sponored by:





#### AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT NOTICE

Upon reasonable notice the City will furnish appropriate auxiliary aids and services when necessary to afford individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in and to enjoy the benefits of a service, program or activity provided by the City.

## NON DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

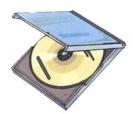
The City of West Allis does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of race, color, religion, age, marital or veterans' status, sex, national origin, disability or any other legally protected status in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its services, programs or certifities.

#### LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the City of West Allis to provide language access services to populations of persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) who are eligible to be served or likely to be directly affected by our programs. Such services will be focused on providing meaningful access to our programs, services and/or benefits.

#### **CHECK THIS OUT!**

The West Allis Public Library is adding a very thought-provoking DVD to its collection. The critically acclaimed four hour documentary series "Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?" will soon be available for checkout. This series argues that health and longevity are correlated with socioeconomic status, people of color face an additional health burden, and our health and well-being are tied to policies that promote economic and social justice. The series consists of the following half-our program segments:



- In Sickness and in Wealth
- Becoming American
- Bad Sugar
- Place Matters
- Collateral Damage
- Not Just A Paycheck

The West Allis Health Department has been a leader in getting key community members and residents together to view a portion of the program and begin the conversations and work to help alleviate some of the burdens. After viewing the video, if you would like to become involved in this important community work, please call the Health Department at 302-8600. Watch for the DVD to appear on the bookshelves by April 2009.



# FREE CHILD BIKE HELMET GIVEAWAY

The West Allis Health Department will be giving out free child bike helmets on Wednesday, May 14, from 3:00-6:00 p.m. to qualified individuals.

Helmets will be fitted by West Allis Health Department Staff. Children must be present to receive a helmet. They also must allow staff to properly fit them; helmets will not be given without being properly fit. Proof of age is required. Only children ages 1-8 years old can receive a helmet.

There will be limited quantities of helmets available. This giveaway is for West Allis-West Milwaukee residents only. Proof of residency is required.

Nice weather will be here soon. Be ready for outdoor activities by having properly fitting helmets on hand. Call 302-8600 for more information.



## BABY BASICS AND BEYOND

If you are a parent, parent-to-be, or caretaker of young children, you are invited to Baby Basics and Beyond, a community event to be held on Tuesday, April 7. This FREE event will be held at the West Allis Aurora Women's Pavilion, 8901 West Lincoln Avenue from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Baby Basic and Beyond will feature a wide range of information, resources, speakers, and displays on child care and child

safety. Topics include poisons, parenting, using car seats correctly, baby proofing your home, and breastfeeding. The event will include door prizes and light refreshments.

This event is sponsored by the Aurora Women's Pavilion, the West Allis-West Milwaukee School Age Parent Program, the West Allis Health Department, and Babies R Us.

You won't want to miss this fun and informative event. Save the date!

# STORMWATER RUNOFF OUT OF SIGHT NOT OUT OF MIND

West Allis, like other municipalities throughout the state, is giving increased attention to a frequently overlooked occurrence—stormwater runoff. Stormwater runoff is water from rainstorms or snow melt which flows over the land rather than evaporating or soaking into the ground. Urban areas generate more stormwater runoff than rural areas because of the higher concentration of buildings, paved surfaces and other impervious areas which prevent the water from soaking into the ground.

Unfortunately, in the past, little thought had been given to the impact which urban stormwater runoff has on Wisconsin's lakes, rivers, and streams. It was not recognized as a source of pollution. Rather, the pollution of these bodies of water was frequently attributed exclusively to discharges from industrial sites. While significant water pollution did result from industrial discharge, by no means was water pollution limited to these sources. To the contrary, evidenced by the fact that even though water pollution from industrial sites has been virtually eliminated, a considerable amount of pollutant loading is still occurring in our state waters. We are now faced with the far more difficult task of addressing this "non-point" or runoff pollution. Simply stated, this means dealing with small amounts of pollution from a variety of sources which, when collectively transported by water runoff, results in significant concentrations of pollutants entering Wisconsin's lakes, rivers, and streams.

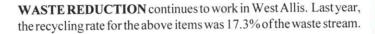
Whether we realize it or not, we all help contribute to the non-point pollution of our water. Everyday activities such as driving, applying fertilizers or pesticides, cutting our lawns, washing our cars, construction of new buildings, etc. potentially add to the pollution problem. Rain washes sediments and pollutants from the air, streets, drives, roofs, and other impervious surfaces into the City's stormwater sewer system which is designed to prevent street and basement flooding by carrying away the excess water. Storm sewers and ditches collect the contaminated runoff, delivering it to streams, lakes and wetlands. In these larger bodies of water, the stormwater runoff results in a variety of problems including: erosion of channels, creation of a wider flood plain, poor water quality and the loss of both wildlife habitat and recreational use.

(Continued on page 5)

#### ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

#### 2008 Recycling Statistics

1897.43 tons Curbside paper 291.94 tons Drop-off paper Curbside blue bag 1365.26 tons Drop-off blue bag 84.24 tons 91.51 tons Mixed paper 20.17 tons Office paper 21.43 tons Tires Waste Oil 14,140 gallons 515 gallons Antifreeze information unavailable Computers .96 tons Sharps



3.16 tons

Brush 2,079.06 tons Leaves 2,818.48 tons Scrap Metal 20 tons

Microwaves

When yard waste and scrap metal are included in the above figure, the percentage jumps to 32.3%. Congratulations on the great job!

Almost Anything, Goodwill, Salvation Army and Thriftmart are resale/thrift stores in the area that accept used clothing, shoes, furniture and household items such as dishes and glassware. Call ahead to make sure the store will accept your items.

Looking to get rid of an old cell phone? Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful and Best Buy have collection bins so these phones can be recycled instead of going into a landfill. Call or visit their website for more information.

Nike has an interesting program to give new life to old, worn-out tennis shoes. Any brand tennis shoes are shredded into a material used in sports and playground surfaces. For more information about this program and to see drop-off locations in West Allis, visit <a href="https://www.nikereuseashoe.com">www.nikereuseashoe.com</a>.

## Neighborhood Partnership Meetings

Beginning in January 2009, the West Allis Police Department has scheduled monthly Neighborhood Partnership Meetings (NPM) for the year. Meetings will be broken down by utilizing the naming of "26" neighborhoods, as established by former Mayor Bell. The meetings will allow the Police Department to address specific concerns unique to each neighborhood. Each neighborhood grouping will have two meetings per year. All meetings will start at 7:00 p.m. and last approximately 90 minutes.

There are several purposes of these meetings, which include but are not limited to:

- · Obtaining Citizen Input on Problems in the Neighborhood
- · Crime Analysis Overview
- · Current Trends
- Victimization
- · Update on Department Programs

Please take advantage of this opportunity to move toward creating a better quality of life in your neighborhood. We truly appreciate your time, input and commitment to our community. RSVP is appreciated but not required. Please call 302-8062 and let us know how many are attending.

#### Neighborhood Partnership Meetings Schedule

To find your neighborhood and meeting date/location, go the City's website/homepage at www.ci.west-allis.wi.us

**April 15, Police Department -** 11301 W. Lincoln Avenue Woodlawn Manor, McCarty Park, Honey Acres, Brosen Manor, Eckel Woods, McGeoch Meadows, Honey Creek Settlement

May 20, City Hall - 7525 W. Greenfield Avenue Henderson Park, LaFollette Park, Conrad Gardens

June 17, Police Department - 11301 W. Lincoln Avenue Biwer's Woods, Orchard Hills, President Heights, Pleasant Valley, Wildwood Estates, Rosehill, Greenfield Park, Root River Estates, Greenfield Gardens

#### STORMWATER RUNOFF (Continued from page 4)

Many people incorrectly assume that water entering the catch basin grates in the street eventually is "treated" prior to ending up in Lake Michigan. Another popular misconception is that the stormwater from West Allis flows into the "deep tunnel" where after a period of time in storage, it eventually is treated at Jones Island. Again, these are both misconceptions. Stormwater runoff is not treated. It flows directly into rivers flowing through West Allis.

What can we do to reduce pollutant loading in our water? Actually, the City has already implemented a number of policies and procedures directed toward the responsible management of its stormwater system. Foremost among these is a biweekly street sweeping program designed to remove debris and pollutants from the street. A catch basin cleaning program is also in place for the purpose of removing heavier particulate matter from the "sumps" in most catch basins thereby preventing it from being washed into the main storm sewer lines. A third program designed to reduce the amount of sediment washing off properties being developed is given support by the City's erosion control ordinance. Various other ordinances prohibiting the casting of litter, blowing of grass clippings, etc. onto city streets have also been enacted.

While the City has made a significant start in reducing the urban pollutant loading of streams flowing through West Allis, it is only a start. Both federal and state mandates necessitate that the City intensify its stormwater management efforts. Existing programs may be expanded and new programs added. While nobody likes to hear the word mandates, hopefully, we can all acknowledge our responsibility to address the water quality problem; a problem, which, if left unchecked, can only result in disastrous consequences for future generations.

## WEST ALLIS SENIOR CENTER NEWS APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2009

The West Allis Senior Center is located at 7001 W. National Avenue. Hours are Monday–Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Closed Holidays and weekends. Phone: 302-8700, Fax: 302-8701.

Membership at the West Allis Senior Center is open to anyone age 55 or older. The current membership year began on September 1 and runs though August 31. Membership fees are \$12 for residents and \$17 for nonresidents. The Senior Center offers a wide variety of classes and weekly activities along with many special events and informational programs throughout the year.

Hunger Task Force's Stockbox Program is dedicated to providing healthy foods to low-income older adults who meet residency, age, and income guidelines. To see if you qualify for this monthly box of nonperishable foods, call "211."

**Transportation for Senior Citizens.** The Lilac Bus is available to transport area senior citizens to and from social events, entertainment and local shopping areas. Round trip fare is \$3 per person. Call 414-302-8715.

**2009 S.A.F.E. Books.** The West Allis S.A.F.E. Book — Senior Awareness, Focus on Help and Enrichment — contains a wealth of information for elders in the community. S.A.F.E. Books are free and available at the Senior Center, Library and City Hall.

CWAG Benefits Counseling. Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups outreach program at the Senior Center. Services include assistance comparing Medicare Part D plans; applying for public benefit programs such as Foodshare, Medicaid and the Wisconsin Heat & Energy Assistance Program for residents age 60 and over. Applications available for low-income subsidized prescription drugs. Call 414-817-0030 for an appointment.

Milwaukee County Senior Meal Program—Congregate Lunch Meals for West Allis residents age 60 and over. Lunch is generally served at 11:30 am at the West Allis Senior Center, 7001 W. National Ave., phone: 414-302-8703, and St. Aloysius Parish Center, 1441 S.92 St., phone: 414-840-1704. Advance reservations are required to guarantee your meal. Suggested donation is \$2/meal. For general information, call Milwaukee County Senior Meal Program at 414-289-6995.

SeniorLAW Benefit Specialist – A Legal Action Program. An outreach Program at the Senior Center once a month to assist residents age 60 and over with issues related to health care, Medicare, health insurance, income maintenance, subsidized housing, elder issues supportive home care, disability and income maintenance. Advice is also available on consumer issues, housing, scams, elder rights, food stamps, homestead credit, long-term care, Social Security, SSI and advance directives. Call 414-302-8700 for dates and times.

#### Selected Events for April, May, June

Simple Steps to A Healthier You! Joinus for this fun and informative seminar on Wednesday, April 22, 11a.m. - 3 p.m. Learn how small changes can enhance your ability to do daily activities and help your mobility and independence. This is especially helpful if you want to prevent, delay, or manage heart disease, diabetes, obesity, arthritis, etc. The cost is \$6/person including lunch. Call 414-302-8700 for more information.

Huge Indoor Rummage & Bake Sale. Friday, May 1, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Senior Center. Please reserve your space in advance (\$10 per 6 ft. table). Donations of "quality" rummage items also accepted April 27 - 30.

Young at Heart Chorus Annual Spring Concert. Friday, June 12, 1:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend this free event. Refreshments served after the concert.

You Are Not Alone & Depends on You-AA Group. You Are Not Alone is a group for older adults who want to remain alcohol and drug free. Journey with us as we talk, share, reminisce, socialize, and support each other. This is a great way to relate and make new friends who share and need support just like you. The meetings are on Tuesdays at 1:00 pm. The Depends on You-AA for the Older Adult group meets on Fridays at 2:00 pm. ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS® is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength, and hope with each other so that they can solve their common problem, while helping others to recover from alcoholism.

Beginner's Quilting Class. Learn quilting basics and complete a simple project. Students provide their own quilting materials, etc. Fridays, 1-3 p.m.

**Dart Ball League.** Recreational group meets Mondays, 9:30 – 11 a.m. No experience necessary, we'll teach you.

**Weight Loss Zone**. Ten-week program for Senior Center members. Group meets on Wednesdays, 12:30–1 p.m. Includes weekly weigh-ins and informational sessions. Cost is \$25. Call 302-8700 for openings.

**Line Dance Class.** Ongoing session for beginners and intermediate dancers. Fridays, 9:30–11 a.m.

**Digital Photography Class**. Learn the basics and get help finding the right camera for you. Thursday afternoons, 1-3 p.m.

**Seeking Volunteer Instructors** to teach other classes. Share your talent and training with others. Call 302-8700.



## PARKING NEAR FIRE HYDRANTS

Just a friendly reminder to park no closer than 10 ft. from a fire hydrant, unless a greater distance

is required by an official traffic sign. However, State law does permit temporary loading and unloading of people or material provided a licensed operator remains at the vehicle should it need to be moved due to emergency or to avoid obstructing traffic. The fine for this violation is \$30.

# WEST ALLIS MEDIATION CENTER

The City of West Allis provides FREE mediation service to residents and property owners. This service assists people in resolving conflicts or disputes. The mediation service offers people to create their own mutually agreeable solutions. Sessions are informal, structured discussions to help clarify the issues and move towards agreement. Some sample disputes that can be resolved are: noise, pets, parking, boundary issues, people conflicts, and family matters. Call 302-8064 for more details.

#### LIBRARY NEWS

#### **RFID Update**

We hope that by now everyone has had a chance to visit the library and see all the many wonderful changes that are being put into operation as part of the RFID project. This project was developed and designed to give our patrons the choice to checkout their own materials—which reduces long waiting lines, provides better privacy during checkout, and creates an easier checkout transaction. New carpeting, a new Circulation Desk, automated inside material returns, and an express pick-up location for held items are all part of the renovation. RFID (radio frequency identification) will continue to be a highly advantageous technology for a wide variety of library uses including inventory tracking and enhanced security. This investment in improved service and increased efficiency was made possible with funding from the generous bequest of Irv H. Terchak (Irv H. Terchak Library Endowment Fund).

If you haven't done so already, please stop by and "check us out." Sign up for a library card and start taking advantage of the services and resources available to you at your public library.

#### **Programs For Children**

All programs require advance registration. Register in person or by calling 302-8502.

#### Three Year Old Story Time

Tuesdays, March 31-April 21 6:30-7:00 p.m. Free. Milwaukee County residents. The child must be three by the end of the four-week session. The adult who brings the child may choose to attend or not attend story time, but must stay in the library during the 30-minute session.

## Multi-Age Story Times for 3, 4, and 5 Year Olds

(Mornings) Wednesdays, April 1-April 22 9:30-10:00 a.m. <u>OR</u> 10:15-10:45 a.m.

(Afternoons) Mondays, April 27-May 18 1:00-1:45 p.m. <u>OR</u> Tuesdays, April 28-May 19

1:00-1:45 p.m. Free. These multi-age story times are for children ages 3, 4, or 5 years old. Story times consist of stories, songs, finger-plays, and activities. The adult who brings the child may choose to attend or not attend story time, but must stay in the library during the session.

#### Preschool Story Time for 4 and 5 Year Olds

Tuesdays, April 28-May 19 6:30-7:15 p.m. Free. Milwaukee County residents. The child must be at least four years old or turn four by the end of the four-week session. In this series, children stay in the Story Room on their own, but adults must remain in the building. Doors open the last 15 minutes for craft time with adult help.

# Lapsit Story Time (ages 9 months through 23 months)

Mondays, April 6, 13, and 20 9:30-10:00 a.m.

# Lapsit Story Time Plus (ages 9 months through age 2)

Thursdays, April 2, 9 and 16 6:30-7:00 p.m. Free. A 20-minute session for babies and toddlers with an adult caretaker. Each session consists of stories, fingerplays, rhymes, and songs. There will be an additional 10 minutes afterwards of quiet time if you wish to stay and read to your child or watch your child play with age appropriate toys in the Story Room. Adults are active participants as they interact one-on-one with their child.

# Toddler and Me Story Time (2-year Olds)

Wednesdays, April 29-May 20 9:30-10:00a.m. OR 10:15-10:45a.m. Free. Milwaukee County residents. A four-week series of 20-minute sessions for two-year olds with an adult caretaker. Each session consists of stories, fingerplays, rhymes and songs. There will be an additional 10 minutes afterwards of playtime with age appropriate toys. Adults are active participants as they interact one-on-one with their child.

#### Family Fun at the Library Celebrate Earth Day!

Sunday, April 26-2:00 p.m.

Listen to stories and make a craft. All ages welcome. Numbers are available at the Children's Information Desk starting one hour before the program. Free.

#### National Library Week

Worlds Connect @ your Library\*\*April 12-18

New materials available for check out. Free bookmarks. Create-a-Bookmark Contest based on the theme of National Library Week. Contest entries must be turned in according to the specifics on the entry forms available in the Children's Department. Entries will be accepted during National Library Week.

#### Children's Book Week- May 11-17

Daily drawing of 15 names for **FREE** Scholastic paperback books. Bookmark Contest winners will be announced. Winners will receive a free paperback book and will have their bookmarks reproduced and given out during Children's Book Week. Winners will also receive a laminated copy of their winning bookmark. There will be multiple winners based on age groups and number of entries. For more information, call the Children's Department at 302-8502.

#### Children's 2009 Summer Reading Program Starts June 8

#### Be Creative @ the Library!

A program flyer with more information will be available in mid-May at the Children's Information Desk. Watch for many special programs in June, July, and August!

#### Teen Events To Check Out @ The Library

All teen events at the West Allis Public Library are open to Milwaukee County teens, ages 12-18 or in grades 6-12. All events are free. More information about the events can be found on the teen blog, <a href="https://www.waplteens.blogspot.com">www.waplteens.blogspot.com</a>, or by calling the Adult Information Desk at 302-8500.

#### Celebrate National Poetry Month-Thursday, April 16

We'll be making poetry magnets at 7:00 p.m. in the Constitution Room. Watch for information about our Poetry Contest, which will run from April 1-April 16.

#### Looking for a new look?-Thursday, May 14

Bring your old (clean) clothes to the library, and we'll provide the necessities to jazz up old t-shirts, jeans, and other clothes. Show off your new style and win prizes. Event starts at 7:00 p.m. in the Constitution Room.

#### Got Games? Wii Do! - Saturdays, April 18 and May 30

Join us for our first Wii Super Smash Brothers Tournaments! April is a practice tournament and May is the real deal. Look for open play dates this summer with more tournament action to follow.

#### Teen Summer Reading starts June 15

Read four books and be entered for prizes. This year we will add weekly winners in addition to our grand prize drawing. Information packets will be available in early June.

#### Holiday Closings/Special Hours

The library will be CLOSED:

Sunday, April 12 Easter Sunday

Saturday, May 23 Memorial Day Weekend

Monday, May 25 Memorial Day

The library is **CLOSED** on **SUNDAYS** May through September.

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# Mark Calendar

#### 4th of July Celebration

"One Nation, United We Stand" is the theme for the 2009 Independence Day Celebration. This year's celebration will begin on Wednesday, July 1, with the "Breakfast of Champions," honoring High School Athletes,

Musicians and Honor Students. It will be held at 9:00 a.m. at the Centennial Park Plaza at City Hall. The annual parade will be Thursday, July 2, starting at 7:00 p.m. On Saturday, July 4, activities move to the Wisconsin State Fair Park with the Talent Showcase at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Grandstand Show and Fireworks at 9:00 p.m.

A trivia contest will be held again this year. Forms will be posted at various locations in the City and in the City's summer newsletter. All entries that have the correct answers will be entered in a prize drawing. For further information, call 414/302-8300.

#### 4th of July Talent Showcase

The WA-WM Recreation Department, in conjunction with the City of West Allis, is sponsoring an All City 4th of July Talent Showcase and you are invited to enter. If you can sing, dance, play a musical instrument, tumble, act, etc. then you should try out. Acts will be judged and the top twenty acts selected will perform at State Fair Park on July 4. Please keep the theme of "One Nation, United We Stand" in mind as you select music with a patriotic focus.

There are certain requirements for participation, and try-outs will be held in late June. Those acts selected for the Showcase will perform at the City of West Allis State Fair Independence Day Fireworks Celebration on Saturday, July 4, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Prizes will be presented to all participants. For further information, contact the Recreation Department at 604-4900 or stop at the Parkway Center, 2930 S. Root River Pkwy, for a registration form. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



# LOOKING TO WORK FOR THE CITY OF WEST ALLIS?

Within the next five to ten years, the City of West Allis anticipates losing approximately 50% of its workforce through retirements. If you are interested in seeking a career within City government, you may wish to begin preparing for your future. The City employs individuals in a variety of capacities including, but not limited to, police and fire, laborers, administrative and clerical, engineering, nursing, and executive, managerial, deputy, confidential, professional and supervisory individuals.

Preparing for possible future employment with the City involves identifying your strengths, abilities, needs, and interests, setting goals and expectations early, and making every effort to acquire and improve the required skills. Secondary education, volunteer work experience, internships, apprenticeships, school activities, and paid employment are means for helping you achieve gainful knowledge and experience to help you develop necessary job skills and competencies relevant to achieving successful employment.

The City's Human Resources Division is responsible for all aspects of recruitment and employment. For current employment opportunities, visit the City's website at <a href="https://www.ci.west-allis.wi.us">www.ci.west-allis.wi.us</a> or call the employment hotline at 302-8280. Hope to see you down the road!



#### 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SETTLERS WEEKEND

Saturday, August 29, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, August 30, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Historical Commission of the City of West Allis is hosting the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Settlers Weekend at the Historical Society grounds, 84<sup>th</sup> & National Avenue. This annual event highlights the history of West Allis up to becoming a city in 1906.

Visit with mountain men, trappers, and Civil War re-enactors. Enjoy the food, entertainment, local craftspeople, and the 1848 log schoolhouse. Admission and parking are free.

For further information, call 414/545-7679.

Come join us. It'll be fun!

### VISIT YOUR STATE FAIR PARK

DATE April 2-5 April 4	EVENT Wheel and Sprocket Bike Expo Junior League Rummage	LOCATION WEC Upper Level Multi-Purpose Barn
April 18-19 April 19 April 24-25 April 24-26	Metroparent's KIDSfest & Baby Expo El Conquistador Bridal Expo Hazardous Waste Collection International Gem and Jewelry Show	WEC WI Products Pavilion North Lot WEC
May 2-3 May 10 May 16 May 22-24	Believe, Create, Become – Women's Revolut Hispanic Rodeo Master Gardeners Plant Sale Spirit Mission Festival	cion WEC Coliseum DNR Cousins Amphitheater, Central Mall, Cream Puff Pavilion Milwaukee Mile
June 5-6 June 14 June 19-20	Christian Expo Hispanic Rodeo NASCAR Weekend	WI Products Pavilion Coliseum Milwaukee Mile
Wisconsin State	Fair Park Administration Office	
E-mail Address		wsfp@wisconsin.gov 414/266-0100

Wisconsin Exposition Center

Milwaukee Mile .....

# HANDLING YOUR YARD WASTE IN 2009

The following information provides West Allis residents with alternatives to dispose of yard waste materials which are currently banned by the state from being collected and disposed of with other wastes. Alternatives available vary by item and may include free collection service, collection service with a fee, free drop-off service, drop-off service with a fee, and on-site composting. Please **REMOVE** and save this page for future reference.

#### YARDWASTE COLLECTION

- Yard waste includes leaves, weeds, thatch, flowers, vines and other non-fruit or vegetable matter.
- · Spring collection of yard waste is April 12 through April 26, 2009.
- · Fall collection of yard waste is September 20 through November 15, 2009.
- · Yard waste should be placed in the curb-line of the street <u>only</u> during the designated dates listed above.
- · DO NOT MIX BRUSH INTO THE YARD WASTE PILES.
- Yard waste can be composted on-site\* or disposed of, without charge, at a drop-off center. (Please see locations and operating hours on reverse side.)
- REMOVE POTS AND SOIL FROM POTTED PLANTS BEFORE PLACING IN THE CURB-LINE.

#### **GRASS CLIPPINGS**

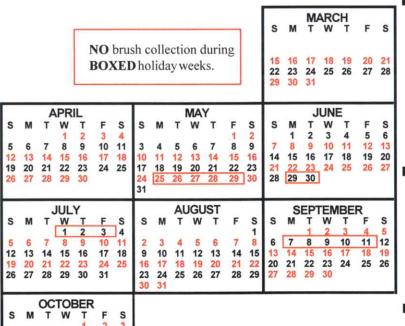
4 5 6 7 8

Grass clippings should be left on the lawn after mowing or the clippings may be added to an on-site compost pile\*. **NO GRASS CLIPPINGS ARE COLLECTED OR ACCEPTED BY THE CITY.** Grass cannot be raked or allowed to blow into the streets where it can clog storm sewers and contaminate run-off water.



\*Brochures on home composting and the benefits of grass clippings left on the lawn are available at various Municipal Buildings. Call the Recycling Office at **302-8831** for additional information.

# 2009 Brush\* Collection



Brush is defined as branches from trees and trimmings from bushes.

- The City will provide every other week collection of small amounts of resident-generated brush, up to 1½ cubic yards, from March 16 through October 9. A separate truck will pick up brush on your recycling pick-up day according to the recycling schedule as shown in the color coded calendar. NO BRUSH COLLECTION WILL BE MADE DURING THE HOLIDAY WEEKS OF MAY 25, JUNE 29 AND SEPTEMBER 7, 2009.
- Residents should place their brush at the curb on the same day as their recycling collection. Large pieces of brush, up to five feet in length, should be bundled and stacked between the sidewalk and the curb, not in the street. Small pieces of brush must be contained in boxes or cans marked "BRUSH" and the address called in to ensure collection. Do not use plastic bags.
- Amounts larger than 1½ cubic yards require special handling and charge. Please call the Sanitation and Street Division at **302-8800**. Permits are available at no charge for residents to take brush to a drop-off site.

Any questions regarding the yard waste information provided above may be referred to the Sanitation and Street Division at **302-8800** weekdays between 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

# 2009 WEST ALLIS DROP-OFF MATERIALS

	MUNICIPAL YARD 6300 West McGeoch Avenue	WEST END-MORGAN SITE South 116 Street-south of Morgan
DROP-OFF MATERIALS	7:15-3:00 – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 7:15-5:00 – Wednesday 8:00-3:30 – Saturday	OPEN: May 26 – September 4, 2009 7:30-2:30 – Monday 7:30-7:00 – Tuesday through Friday 8:00-3:30 – Saturday
	CLOSED: January 1 May 23 and 25 July 3 and 4 September 5 and 7 November 26 and 27 December 24 and 25 January 1, 2010	OPEN: September 8 - October 16, 2009 7:30-2:30 - Monday through Friday  CLOSED: July 3 and 4 September 5 and 7 October 17, 2009 through June 1, 2010
Yard Waste (weeds, thatch, garden debris, leaves, etc.) NO GRASS CLIPPINGS	ACCEPTED	ACCEPTED
Computers (including screen, CPU, printer, keyboard, mouse)	ACCEPTED	NOT ACCEPTED
Motor Oil and Antifreeze	ACCEPTED	NOT ACCEPTED
Recyclables •Newspaper, Magazines, and Corrugated Cardboard •Aluminum, Glass, Plastics #1 & #2, Steel/Tin •Mixed paper (voluntary)	ACCEPTED	NO RECYCLABLES ACCEPTED
Brush	PERMIT REQUIRED* (no charge)	PERMIT REQUIRED* (no charge)
Household Refuse, including old furniture and televisions	PERMIT REQUIRED* (no charge)	NOT ACCEPTED
White Goods (appliances)	NOT ACCEPTED	NOT ACCEPTED
Asphalt	PERMIT REQUIRED  CHARGE**	CHARGE** (must be prepaid)
Concrete	PERMIT REQUIRED  CHARGE**	CHARGE** (must be prepaid)
Ground and Sod	PERMIT REQUIRED  CHARGE**	CHARGE** (must be prepaid)
Stone	PERMIT REQUIRED  CHARGE**	CHARGE** (must be prepaid)
Construction Debris	PERMIT REQUIRED CHARGE**	NOT ACCEPTED
Roofing Materials	PERMIT REQUIRED CHARGE**	NOT ACCEPTED
Tires	CHARGE***	NOT ACCEPTED

<sup>\*</sup>Permits are required (except for quantities less than 1½ cubic yards). Homeowner generated material only is accepted - no contractor generated material. Call Sanitation and Street Division for permit: 302-8800.

NOTE: The Municipal Yard and the West End-Morgan Site do not accept car batteries. At the time of this printing car batteries are accepted at Batteries Plus (456-9400), National Salvage (453-6677) and Remy Batteries (384-0340).

<sup>\*\*</sup>Homeowners must obtain a permit and prepay prior to disposal.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>At the time of this printing the charge for tires (must be off the rim) is \$3 per tire 16" and under, \$14 per tire over 16", \$57 per tractor tire. Exact change is necessary.



# West Allis Charities, Inc.

a Gem in the Community - since 1964

Volume 1, Issue 3 - April 2009

# Communiqué

#### **Meetings & Fundraisers**

- Meetings are held the 1st Thursday of every month at West Allis City Hall, 76th & Greenfield Avenue
- The 1st Saturday of each month presents an opportunity for you to grab a quick, inexpensive meal and contribute to the Charities by purchasing a hot dog lunch at Majdecki Sentry on HWY 100 & Cleveland Ave.

# Piecing Together Resources for the Community



How would you like to help the West Allis Charities succeed in piecing together resources for the community? Every day one or more people fall victim to the economy, health issues, and / or circumstances beyond their control, which have an adverse affect on their daily living. There are causes all over the world. It is unfortunate only a percent of every dollar donated to most of them is actually used toward the cause. In some cases, only \$0.20 per dollar is truly used for the purpose you are donating to. The other \$0.80 is used for telemarketing solicitations, mass mailings, salaries, advertising, administrative expenses, and travel expenses. In addition to a very small percent of each dollar going to the cause, in almost all cases, the money does not stay in your city / state.

Wouldn't it be great, if 90% or more of the funds you donate would go toward the cause for which you choose **and** know it will stay in your immediate community?

When you donate to our five projects, we can promise you your donation will be earmarked for the project / projects of your choice. We will use your donations to support and fulfill the needs of the West Allis community.

#### How can we do this?

It is easy! Every person within our organization is a volunteer.

We do not have an office, therefore no rent or utility expenses.

We seek out and partner with individuals and businesses to establish long term relationships resulting in sponsorship dollars for administrative and fundraising, event expenses.

Our homes are our offices. Our time, experience, and dedication becomes the West Allis Charities' treasure.

Take part in your community...Join Us!

# What is a Friend of the West Allis Charities?

A Friend of the West Allis Charities can be anyone who supports us and our mission to provide charitable support for individuals, groups, and organizations in the West Allis community, while establishing positive community projects promoting health, literacy, education, safety, and networking.

Become a Friend of the West Allis Charities by...



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"A community's strength can be measured by how well every individual takes responsibility for themselves, helping each other, and the environment for which they live. Our projects provide a defined choice and an opportunity for everyone to take action toward a cause they believe in. Remember...your contributions stay in West Allis."

## 2009 Friends of the West Allis Charities Contribution, Community Partner, and Membership Drive

...picking the project or projects you would like to support. The West Allis Charities, is focused on five projects pertaining to the most demanding needs of the community.

**Project Health:** supporting nutrition, medical, dental, and vision needs.

**Project Living:** supporting improved living conditions by means of food, select household items, some utilities, and physical impairment devises.

#### Project Literacy &

**Education**: supporting individuals through scholarships and programs, which will improve reading, writing, speech, and mathematics.

**Project Safety:** supporting programs working toward the elimination of abuse & violent crimes.

**Project Connect:** bringing businesses, groups, and organizations together to establish a network of support for each other's mission and to jointly raise funds for parallel and complementing programs.

We are committed to improving the quality of life in the West Allis community. If each person, who reads our newsletter were to donate a minimum of \$5.00, we would be able to increase the chances of not having to turn away someone seeking our help in an unfavorable situation. We need you. You have the power to make a difference for yourself and others in the community.

Our Contact Information:
PO Box 14544
West Allis, WI 53214
Bill - President (778-0760)

# ≥3 Thank You &

# Friends of the West Allis Charities Info Form

Print Full Name:				
Best Phone #:	Time to Call:			
Print E-mail Address:				
We do not sell, barter, trade, or give out your personal information.				
  Yes, I would like to make a monetary contribution.				
Project Name:	Dollar Amount: \$			
Project Name:	Dollar Amount: \$			
Yes, I would like to become a volunteer. Please contact me.				
Save on postage! Donate online at <u>www.westallischarities.org</u> .				